

Governor's Office of Economic Development

STATE OF UTAH

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Clean Sweep...1, 2 and now 3!

High School Musical 3 Filming in Utah Starting in April

Salt Lake City, UT – "High School Musical 3", is set to shoot this April in Utah because of a cooperative agreement between The Utah Film Commission, the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) and the Utah State Legislature. The State has seen an ever increasing number of feature films produced in Utah over the last few years because of the success which the Motion Picture Incentive Fund (MPIF) has enjoyed in attracting a wider variety of film productions to Utah.

This past legislative session the Legislature approved a \$1.5 million increase for the MPIF bringing the total appropriation for the fiscal year 2009 to \$5.5 million. The MPIF has brought such films as Disney's "High School Musical" 1 & 2 to the State. Those two films alone have brought \$8 million and 180 jobs to Utah when they were being filmed. Now High School Musical 3 alone is projected to spend \$13 Million.

Governor Huntsman encouraged the Legislature to approve the increase after Utah saw more than 40 feature films and one network television series shot in the State between 2006-2007 generating \$99 million in economic development dollars.

"Our position as a premier film destination encourages a significant increase in the number and size of films produced here," said Governor Huntsman. "Utah's film industry continues to deliver large dividends to our economy's success."

Since its inception in 2004 the MPIF has seen significant growth which has further enhanced the success of the Utah film industry. "The Legislature continues to show a tremendous amount of confidence in the MPIF and the exceptional economic impact it will continue to have on the State in the years to come" said Marshall Moore, Director of the Film Commission.

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